NUMB. CXCIII.

The SPECTATOR.

—Ingentem foribus domus alta ſuperbis
Mane ſalutantum totis vomit ædibus undam. Virg.

Thurſday, October 11. 1711.

WHEN we look round us, and behold the ſtrange variety of Faces and Perſons which fill the Streets with Buſineſs and Hurry, it is no unpleaſant Amuſement ake Gueſſes at their different Purſuits, and by their Countenances what it is that ſo anxi- engages their preſent Attention. Of all this Crowd there are none who would give a Man ed to ſuch Enquiries better Diverſion for his ghts, than thoſe whom we call good Courti- nd ſuch as are aſſiduous at the Levées of Men. Theſe Worthies are got into an habit Servile with an Air, and enjoy a certain in being known for underſtanding how orld paſſes. In the pleaſure of this they early, go abroad ſleek and well dreſſed, with Hope or Purpoſe but to make a Bow to a Court Favour, and be thought, by ſome tig- Smile of his, not a little engaged in his In- nd Fortunes. It is wondrous that a Man can er the Natural Exiſtence and Poſſeſſion of his Mind ſo far, as to take delight either in pay- or receiving ſuch cold and repeated Civilities. what maintains the Humour is, that outward it what moſt Men purſue, rather than real Hap- Thus both the Idol and Idolater equally upon themſelves in pleaſing their Imaginati- this way. But as there are very many of her eſty's good Subjects who are extreamly uneaſie er own Seats in the Country, where all from Skies to the Center of the Earth is their own, have a mighty longing to ſhine in Courts, or be ers in the Power of the World; I ſay, for the of theſe, and others who hanker after being the Whiſper with great Men, and vexing their bours with the Changes they would be capable making in the appearance at a Country Seſſions, would not methinks be amiſs to give an Account Market for Preferment, a great Man's Levée. For ought I know, this Commerce between the and their Slaves, very juſtly repreſented, do ſo much good as to incline the Great to Buſineſs rather than Oſtentation; and make Little know the uſe of their Time too well, to ſpend it in vain Applications and Addreſſes.

The famous Doctor in *Moorfields*, who gained ſo much Reputation for his Horary Predictions, is ſaid to have had in his Parlour different Ropes to little Bells, which hung in the Room above Stairs, where the Doctor thought fit to be oraculous. If a Girl had been deceived by her Lover one Bell was pulled; and if a Peaſant had loſt a Cow the Rope rung another. This Method was kept in reſpect to all other Paſſions and Concerns, and a skilful Servant ſifted the Enquirer, and gave the Doctor Notice accordingly. The Levée of a great Man is laid after the ſame manner, and twenty Whiſpers, falſe Alarms, and private Intimations paſs backward and forward, from the Porter, the Valet, and the Patron himſelf, before the gaping Crew who are to pay their Court are gathered together; when the Scene is ready, the Doors fly open and diſcover his Lordſhip.

There are ſeveral ways of making this firſt Appearance: You may be either half dreſſed, and waſhing your ſelf, which is, indeed, the moſt ſtately; but this way of opening is peculiar to Military Men, in whom there is ſomething graceful in expoſing themſelves naked; but the Politicians, or Civil Officers, have uſually affected to be more reſerved, and preſerve a certain Chaſtity of Deportment. Whether it be Hieroglyphical, or not, this Difference in the Military and Civil Liſt, but I have ever underſtood the Fact to be, that the cloſe Miniſter is buttoned up, and the brave Officer open-breaſted on theſe Occaſions.

However that is, I humbly conceive the buſineſs of a Levée is to receive the Acknowledgments of a Multitude, that a Man is Wiſe, Beauteous, Valiant, and Powerful. When the firſt ſhot of Eyes are made, it is wonderful to obſerve how much Submiſſion the Patron's Modeſty can bear, and how much Servitude the Client's Spirit can deſcend to. In the vaſt multiplicity of Buſineſs, and the Crowd about him, my Lord's Parts are uſually ſo great, that, to the Aſtoniſhment of the whole Aſſembly, he has ſomething to ſay to every Man there, and that ſo ſuitable to his Capacity, as any Man may judge that it is not without Talents that Men can arrive at great Employments. I have known a great Man aſk a Flag-Officer, which way was the Wind, a Com-

mander

mander of Horſe the preſent Price of Oats, and a Stock-Jobber at what Diſcount ſuch a Fund was, with as much eaſe as if he had been bred to each of thoſe ſeveral ways of Life. Now this is extreamly obliging; for at the ſame time that the Patron informs himſelf of Matters, he gives the Perſon of whom he enquires an opportunity to exert himſelf. What adds to the Pomp of thoſe Interviews is, that it is performed with the greateſt Silence and Order imaginable. The Patron is uſually in the midſt of the Room, and ſome humble Perſon gives him a Whiſper, which his Lordſhip anſwers aloud, *It is well. Yes, I am of your Opinion. Pray inform your ſelf further, you may be ſure of my Part in it.* This happy Man is diſmiſſed, and my Lord can turn himſelf to a Buſineſs of a quite different Nature, and off-hand give as good an Anſwer as any great Man is obliged to. For the chief Point is to keep in Generals; and if there be any thing offered that's Particular, to be in haſte.

But we are now in the height of the Affair, and my Lord's Creatures have all had their Whiſpers round to keep up the Farce of the thing, and the Dumb Show is become more general. He caſts his Eye to that Corner, and there to Mr. ſuch a one; to the other, *and when did you come to Town?* and perhaps juſt before he nods to another, and enters with him, *but, Sir, I am glad I ſee you, now I think of it.* Each of thoſe are happy for the next four and twenty Hours; and thoſe who bow in Ranks undiſtinguiſhed, and by Dozens at a time, think they have very good Proſpects if they may hope to arrive at ſuch Notices half a Year hence.

The Satyriſt ſays there is ſeldom common Senſe in high Fortune; and one would think, to behold a Levée, that the Great were not only infatuated with their Station, but alſo that they believed all below were ſeized too, elſe how is it poſſible they could think of impoſing upon themſelves and others in ſuch a degree, as to ſet up a Levée for any thing but a direct Farce? But ſuch is the Weakneſs of our Nature, that when Men are a little exalted in their Condition, they immediately conceive they have additional Senſes, and their Capacities enlarged not only above other Men, but above human Comprehenſion it ſelf. Thus it is ordinary to ſee a great Man attend one liſtning, bow to one at a diſtance, and call to a third at the ſame inſtant. A Girl in new Ribbons is not more taken with her ſelf, nor does ſhe betray more apparent Coquettries, than even a Wiſe Man in ſuch a Circumſtance of Courtſhip. I do not know any thing that I ever thought ſo very diſtaſteful as the Affectation which is recorded of *Cæſar*, to wit, that he would dictate to three ſeveral Writers at the ſame time. This was an Ambition below the Greatneſs and Candour of his Mind. He indeed (if any Man had Pretenſions to greater Faculties than any other Mortal) was the Perſon; but ſuch a way of acting is Childiſh, and inconſiſtent with the manner of our Being. And it appears from the very nature of things that there cannot be any thing effectually diſpatched in the Diſtraction of a Publick Levée, but the whole ſeems to be a Conſpiracy of a Sett of Servile Slaves, to give up their own Liberty to take away their Patron's Underſtanding.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

At the Deſire of ſeveral Ladies of Quality,

By Her Majeſty's Company of Comedians,

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane this preſent Thurſday, being the 11th of October, will be preſented a Comedy call'd The Scornful Lady, Written by Beaumont and Fletcher. The part of the Scornful Lady by Mrs. Oldfield. Loveleſs by Mr. Wilks, young Loveleſs by Mr. Mills, Welford by Mr. Booth, Ironcraft by Mr. Bullock, Roger by Mr. Cibber, Poet by Mr. Norris, Martha by Mrs. Bicknell, Abigail by Mrs. Willis, Savil by Mr. Bowman. And on Saturday next will be revived a Play (not acted theſe Five Years) called Philaſter, or Love Lies a Bleeding.

Juſt Publiſh'd,

Religio Clerici: or, The Private Devotions of a Private Country Divine of the Church of England. Printed for N. Cliff at the Bible and 3 Crowns in Cheapſide; where may be had an Account of ſome Remarkable Paſſages in the Life of a Private Gentleman; alſo the Life of Mr. Tho. Beard, Writ by himſelf, &c.

Lately Publiſhed,

Court Intreagues, in a Collection of Original Letters from the Iſland of the New Atalantis. By the Author of the Memoirs. Printed for J. Morphew near Stationer's-Hall; and W. Edward in Scalding Alley: Alſo the Works of Petronius Arbiter in three Parts, by ſeveral Hands, adorn'd with Cuts; with a Key written by Monſieur St. Evremont.

At the Indian Man in Ruſſel-Street Covent-Garden, is a Parcel of rich Jewels, viz. a Brilliant Diamond String Croſs, Ear-Rings, Rings, Buckles, Pendants, and alſo fine Lace, Silks, Muſlins, and other valuable Goods, to be diſpos'd of at reaſonable Rates, the whole amounting to 675 l. which, for the Encouragement of Buyers, will be divided into 360 Shares, the Price whereof is 100 l. Value, and the leaſt 10 s. Any one of theſe Shares may be purchaſed for the little Sum of Half a Crown, as may be further more at large at the Place of Sale, where Attendance will be given till all the Goods be ſold. It being very near full, the Shares will be divided the 18th Inſtant without fail, and ſooner if full.

Jane Watkins and Sarah Reeves, that make all ſorts of Petticoats, Says, Jumps, boned Waſtcoats, Canvas Coats, and the new Faſhion quilted Petticoats ready made, are removed from Drury-lane to the Golden Spire in Liſle-ſtreet in Leiceſter-Fields.

To be ſold by the Merchant at his Houſe in Mincin-lane, next Door to Tho. Palmer, Eſq; a freſh Parcel of new French Wines, viz. Obrion Claret, at 3 s. a Bottle. Hermitage and Burgundy at 5 s. a Flask; no leſs Quantity than a Dozen.

Notice is hereby given, that in a Vault under Tavies Inn againſt Hatton Garden, in Holborn, are to be ſold by Retail, new natural Oporto Wine Red and White, imported by the Adriatick, at 16 d. per Quart without Door, and 18 d. within, 16 l. per Hogſhead: And Red Beno Carlos Barcelona Wine, Deep, Bright, ſtrong and perfect Sound, at 12 d. per Quart without Door, and 14 d. within, and 12 l. per Hogſhead. Note, The ſaid Sale of Wines will be continued till all ſhall be ſold.

Angelick Snuff: The moſt noble Compoſition in the World, removing all manner of Diſorders of the Head and Brain, eaſing the moſt excruciating Pain in a Moment; taking away Swimming or Giddineſs proceeding from Vapours, &c. alſo Drowſineſs, Sleepineſs and other Lethargick Effects, perfectly curing Deafneſs to Admiration, and all Humours or Soreneſs in the Eyes, ſtrengthning them when weak, certainly cures Catarrhs, or Defluxions of Rheum, and remedies the Tooth-ach inſtantly; is exceeding beneficial in Apoplectick Fits and Falling Sickneſs, and effectually prevents thoſe Diſtempers; corroborates the Brain, comforts the Head and revives the Spirits. Its admirable Efficacy in all the above mentioned Diſeaſes has been experienced above a Thouſand times, which very juſtly cauſes it to be eſteem'd the moſt beneficial Snuff in the World, being good for all ſorts of Perſons. Price 1 s. a Paper, with Directions. Sold only at Mr. Payn's Toyſhop at the Angel and Crown in St. Paul's Churchyard near Cheapſide.

An infallible Electuary for Coughs and Colds, which immediately and ſafely cures them to admiration, takes away all Hoarſeneſs, Shortneſs of Breath, difficulty of Breathing, Soreneſs or Roughneſs of the Stomach or Wind-pipe; is Healing and Balſamick, and by gentle and eaſie Expectoration, rectifies all manner of diſordered Lungs, preſerving them ſutige, ſound and good, certainly curing all Ulcers therein; removes all old ſhort Coughs, cures the Phthiſick and Aſthma to a Miracle, alſo Catarrhs or Defluxions of Rheum, &c. The Noble Virtues are inexpreſſible, for it effectually and quickly cures all ſorts of Coughs, Colds and Diſorders of the Breaſt and Lungs to Wonder; 'tis not to be equall'd. Price 2 s. 6 d. a Pot. With Directions. Sold only at Mr. Payn's Toyſhop at the Angel and Crown in St. Paul's Church yard near Cheapſide.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in; as alſo by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.